

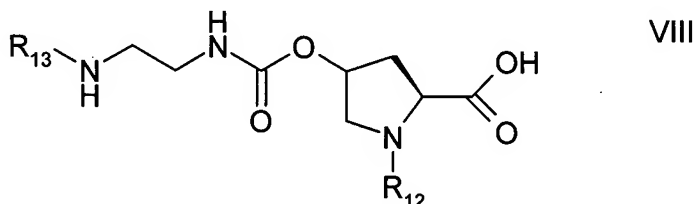
### Amendment to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

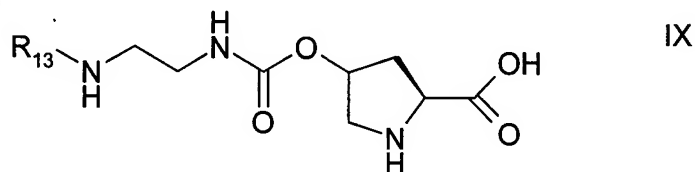
### Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-5 (canceled)

Claim 6 (original): A process for preparing a compound of formula VIII



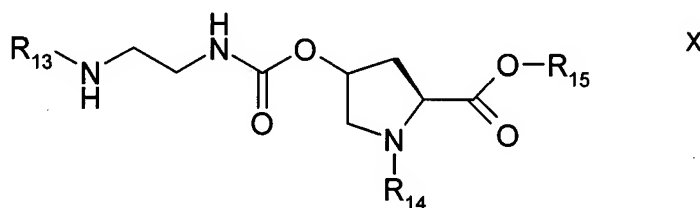
wherein  $R_{12}$  and  $R_{13}$  are each a removable protecting group and  $R_{12}$  and  $R_{13}$  are different; comprising reacting a compound of formula IX



with a suitable  $R_{12}$  donor compound.

Claim 7 (original): A process according to claim 6, wherein the compound of formula IX is prepared by

(i) hydrolysing a compound of formula X



wherein  $R_{13}$  is as defined in claim 6,

$R_{14}$  is a removable protecting group and  $R_{14}$  is different to  $R_{12}$  and  $R_{13}$ , and

$R_{15}$  is a blocking group removable by hydrolysis or hydrogenolysis,

to obtain the corresponding carboxylic acid, and

(ii) removing the protecting group  $R_{14}$  in the resulting carboxylic acid.

Claims 8-9 (canceled)

Claim 10 (original): A process for producing a compound of formula VIII as defined in claim 6, wherein  $R_{12}$  is fluorenylmethoxycarbonyl and  $R_{13}$  is a removable protecting group other than fluorenylmethoxycarbonyl, comprising reacting a compound of formula IX with a fluorenylmethoxycarbonyl donor compound.